

WASHINGTON CRITIC

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THE WASHINGTON CRITIC.

Washington, D. C.

RICHARD B. SYLVESTER, - Editor.

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 9, 1886.

THE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Times, referring to the proposed organization of a Citizens' Association in this District, says that "the proposition may be regarded by the Commissioners as an intimation that the discharge of their duties hitherto has not been altogether satisfactory."

Inasmuch as Commissioner Wheatley has signified his approval of the proposition, it does not look as if he, at least, regarded it as a reflection upon himself or an intimation on his behalf.

The intention is not to obstruct, but to assist, the Commissioners, who are not being representatives or delegates to Congress, would find a properly organized committee of great service in ascertaining the wishes of the people and facilitating such legislation as might be deemed necessary.

The Commissioners are supposed to base their recommendations upon the public needs and administer the law, not to bestow the public welfare.

It is of importance that they be kept posted as to the wants of the several sections of the city, and in regard to all enterprises or improvements in which the community at large has direct interest. The views of any responsible association of citizens concerning these matters would of course be desirable and acceptable as an aid to the determination of what policy to adopt or action to pursue.

The correspondent says further: "Should the association be formed, some fear is expressed that it should blossom out at an early day as the exponent of all the franchise-hunting people in the city." We admit that in almost any committee, that might be organized, whether large or small, the ardent element would be encountered; but this is one of the obstacles to legislation that the association is specially designed to overcome. It is to bring a strong public sentiment to bear upon conflicting interests, that they may be forced to adjust or compromise their disagreements. The influence of an association composed of representative citizens, though it might not be supreme, could hardly fail to be more or less potent in its self-assertions and exert a wholesome check upon any attempted perversion of the action of its Executive Committee to corrupt or merely personal ends.

But the contingency of such action on the part of any Executive Committee of reputable and influential citizens is scarcely to be entertained. The risk in this direction is small. The chances in the other direction are that the association would prove a splendid practical success.

MAJOR WALKER'S REPORT.

The annual report of Major and Superintendent Samuel H. Walker of the Metropolitan Police force not only contains much more information in fact concerning the organization and condition of the department than was ever embodied in any similar report, but abounds in recommendations of a practical and progressive character.

It appears from this report that the number of private on the force, all told, is 235, of which number 40 are daily detailed for other duties than those of patrolmen, and 19 are mounted men outside the boundaries of the city, leaving but 176 for the protection of the city proper, only half of whom are on duty at any one time. Tables are added which show that considering the area of territory to be covered and the number of men available for the service, there is no large city in the country so inadequately provided for as the Capital of this great nation. Hence the suggestion of Major Walker that Congress should increase the force by at least one hundred additional patrolmen will be seen to have great weight, though a smaller number is called for by the estimates; especially when we take into view the rapid growth of the city, the vast amount of valuable property to be protected, and the prospective expense which will add many thousands to an already large and constantly growing transient population.

The report takes up the different precincts of the city in their order, giving minute information as to the personnel, extent and wants of each, making still more apparent the urgent necessity of additional men to render the force properly effective. It is shown that in the Third Precinct, for instance, which embraces the Executive Mansion, the Treasury, the War, Navy and the State department buildings, there are about forty miles of streets and alleys, to patrol which there are only six men for day duty and eleven for night duty. In all the precincts a similar condition of things exists, some of the boats required to be covered by one officer and fully eight miles. Well may the Major say the time has come for a change.

The report also recommends, besides an increase of the force, the establishment of a Reform School for girls, some provision for a suitable morgue, the purchase of a police boat for the harbor, higher license for the retail dealer in intoxicating liquors, the adoption of the New York law in regard to poolrooms and more rigorous legislation for the prevention of gambling. Much space is devoted to minor suggestions bearing upon the better organization of the department, the care of inmates and other subjects coming

LIFE INSURANCE AT COST.

The Equity Standard of the Citizens' National of New York.

In the early history of Life Insurance in this country, as the veteran soldier will remember, it was first founded upon the theory of a risk, to explain the nature and value of the investment—to dispel the prejudices and illuminate the darkness that surrounded the subject.

The general principle of the Equity Standard of the Citizens' National of New York, was to place the Department upon the strongest possible footing and raise it to what it should be—the model department of the country.

The report of Mr. Sylvester, the secretary and property clerk, follows that of Major Walker, and resembles it in the fullness of its statistical details.

The action of the General Assembly of Knights of Labor in regard to the great strike of the employees of the Chicago packing houses will be looked for with interest. If we correctly read Mr. Powderly's address he regards the present as an unfavorable time for attempting to enforce the eight-hour law. The same objections to it exist now that did on the last of May. In the Chicago case the difficulty is aggravated because of the business complications that have grown out of the adoption of the system in some places and its non-adoption in others. The situation is very serious, and the look-out for 10,000 to 20,000 workmen at this season of the year—especially those who are desperately intent upon a fixed purpose; and if the influence of the Knights of Labor is at all potential in the regulation of such matters, here is certainly a chance for its exercise.

Hon. AUGUST F. PIKE, United States Senator from New Hampshire, died very suddenly yesterday while, walking alone in his farm near Franklin Falls. He left Washington in ill health some time before the close of the last session of Congress, but had greatly recuperated and his death was wholly unexpected. Mr. Pike was a diligent, conscientious Senator, and will be remembered here as an active and useful member of the District Committee.

MONSIEUR CARTEL telegraphs to the New York Mail and Express that the recent statements concerning his alleged scandalous conduct in California are malicious and absolutely false. This completes the pleadings in the case. It now remains for his accusers to substantiate their charges if they can. In the meantime the Monsiorg is entitled to a suspension of the current racket.

WE are assured that the visit of Colonel Lamont to New York was purely non-political, the New York Star to the contrary notwithstanding. Editor Dorschner makes a little Executive discipline.

OBJECTIONS to the organization of a Citizens' Association are few and far between. The fact that we have no vote certainly does not imply that we should have no voice in our own government.

GENERAL AND CRITICAL.

Hon. Robert Small, M. C. from the "Black District" in South Carolina, is held in great esteem by his constituents, and not long since two of them were talking about him.

"Dat Mistah Small is a powerful smart man," said one.

"Dat's what I say, too," said the other.

"Dat haint no pissen in dis yer doctordick's smartness," said the first.

"He's a powerful smart man for a nigger," said the second.

"Spec not. But he haint as smart as God," said the first.

"Dat's so, too; but 'is' you wait, chile, tell he gits as ole as God," said the second.

The argument had reached its vanishing point.

At a recent meeting of a prominent charitable organization of ladies in this city one of the officers was absent. Her mother, a very old lady, had died some time before, and it occurred to one of the members present that that was why she was not there, and this did not occur to her until the session was in progress, then she rose.

"Chairman," she said, "I have a motion to make."

"Very well, let us hear it," responded the Chair, with a smile.

"I move that this meeting do now adjourn out of respect to the memory of Mrs. Blank, whose mother is dead, and who is not with us today."

The subject was a solemn one, but the manner of its presentation brought down the house, and the meeting adjourned in a highly Congressional manner.

Oh, School Mar! Oh, School Mar!

Who teacheth the young idea how to reel and spunk the earthwile festive mail boy with a hand that taketh who also lameth him with a hickory switch.

And smother him by laying the weight of a ruler upon his shoulders.

Oh!

Thou maketh him the national emblem—Red, white and blue—

And smother him with stripes.

Oh, School Mar!

Thou art lovely and accomplished.

Above all women, and if thou art with us today, it is because thou art too smart to be caught that way!

All school marms are women.

And all women are school marms.

And, angels patridge.

Thou art lovely and accomplished.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION

OF THE

NATIONAL BANK OF WASHINGTON.

At Washington City, in the District of Columbia, at the close of business Oct. 7, 1886.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts, \$2,710,000.00

Overdrafts, 100,000.00

U. S. bonds on hand, 400,000.00

U. S. bonds on deposit, 100,000.00

Due from approved reserve agents, 200,000.00

Due from other National Banks, 100,000.00

Current expenses and taxes paid, 50,000.00

Premiums paid, 100,000.00

Checks and other cash items, 100,000.00

Total, \$3,660,000.00

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in, \$1,000,000.00

Surplus fund, 100,000.00

Undivided profits, 100,000.00

Individual deposits, 100,000.00

Certificated deposits, 100,000.00

Due to other National Banks, 100,000.00

Due to State Banks and bankers, 100,000.00

Total, \$2,660,000.00

District of Columbia, City of Washington, D. C.

J. CHARLES A. JAMES, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the foregoing is a true and correct statement of the condition of the bank to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14th day of October, 1886.

ALBERT R. RUFF, Notary Public.

Corrected: EDWARD TEMPLE, J. M. C. WARD, Directors.

WASHINGTON MUSICAL ASSOCIATION.

A. J. Schaffner, President, 100 N. 1st St. N. W.

J. M. Schaffner, Secretary, 100 N. 1st St. N. W.

J. M. Schaffner, Treasurer, 100 N. 1st St. N. W.

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